(c) The decision in question has been taken after a careful consideration of all relevant aspects. The Govt., however, is maintaining a close watch on the situation.

Income-tax evasion by photographic film industry

882. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the income-tax authorities have recently unearthed a multi-crore rupee racket of tax evasion and forgery in photographic films in the Capital;

(b) if so, what are the details of the raids conducted on the premises of an agent of a public sector manufacturing company of photographic films and one of his distributors; and

(c) what further action Government have taken/propose to take against the persons involved in the racket?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) Searches under Section 132 of the Income-tax Act, 1961 were conducted on 20.9.1990 on the business and residential premises of a stockist of a public sector company manufacturing photographic films In the course of the search, besides incriminating documents showing sale of photographic films worth several crores of rupees through an intermediary to fictitious dealers, jewellery of value of Rs. 7.46 lakhs was seized and in the statement recorded under section 132(4) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 concealed income of Rs 5 95 lakhs was disclosed. Proceedings under the Income-tax Act have been taken.

Smuggling of foreign currency

883 SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Customs authorities at the Indira Gandhi International Airport have nabbed an employee of a reputed foreign airlines who was allegedly trying to pass on foreign currency worth over Rs. 17 lakhs into the aircraft, as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 1-12-90;

(b) whether the connivance of any Indian officials has also been established; and

(c) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The officers of Customs posted at Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi kept a watch on the movements of the ground staff attending to Thai Airways flight No, TG-315 which had arrived at 18.45 hours on 29th November, 1990 and intercepted and searched one Maruti Gypsy of Thai Airways (Maintenance staff). The search resulted in the recovery and seizure of the packet containing US $ 1,00,005 comprising of currency, travellers cheques and cheques. The Maruti Gypsy worth Rs. 1,10,000/- approximately was also seized One person named Virendar Kumar Grover of the Maintenance staff of Thai Airways has been arrested in this connection. However, no official of the Government has been found to be involved in the case.

Inability of the Indian Banks and Financial Institutions to borrow in the International Market

884. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian banks and financial institutions are not able to borrow in the international market;

(b) if so, whether Government allowed the banks and institutions to raise money in bankers acceptance at a rate of upto 50 points basis over the London Inter-Bank offered rate; and

(c) if so, how much the country will loss in terms of foreign exchange by such borrowings?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir. Indian banks, financial institutions and other institutional borrowers continue to have access to international money markets at terms consistent with India's credit rating

(b) Yes, Sir

(c) Borrowings in foreign exchange are approved taking into account the cost at which they are available and our own needs, so as to enable essential imports to be made which would otherwise not be possible due to the trade gap The question of loss on account of such borrowings therefore does not arise since the imports made through such borrowings are meant to add to the growth of the gross national product and to the exportable surplus.

चावल के सौदे के संबंध में केन्द्रीय जाच ब्यूरो की रिपोर्ट पर कार्यवाही

885. सरदार जगजीत सिंह अरोड़ा : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या सरकार ने वर्ष 1985 मे चावल-सौदे मे केन्द्रीय जाच ब्यूरो द्वारा पाई गई अनियमितताओ पर आवश्यक कार्रवाई न करने के लिये संबंधित अधिकारियो के विरुद्ध कार्रवाई करने का निर्णय लिया है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री शांतिलाल पुरुषोत्तमदास पटेल): (क) और (ख) एस टी सी द्वारा दिनांक 6-3-1985 को आबूधाबी म्यूनिसिपलिटी के हेतु 7500 मी० टन बासमती चावल के निर्यात के लिये हस्ताक्षरित सविदा के मामले मे सी बी आई ने सबधित मुख्य विपणन प्रबधक के खिलाफ बडी दडात्मक कार्रवाई करने और एस. टी सी के कुछ अन्य अधिकारियो के खिलाफ मामूली दडात्मक कार्रवाई करने की सिफारिश की थी। इस बारे मे नियमित रूप से विभागीय वैधानिक कार्रवाई की गई। जाच रिपोर्ट/स्पष्टीकरणो पर पर्याप्त विचार करने के बाद मुख्य विपणन प्रबधक पर "निंदा" (सेंसर) का दड लगाया गया और बाकी लोगो को दोषमुक्त कर दिया गया।

बोकारो इस्पात संयंत्र का विस्तार

886. श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : क्या इस्पात और खान मत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) बोकारो स्टील लिमिटेड की वर्तमान उत्पादन क्षमता कितनी है और क्या इसके विस्तार का कोई प्रस्ताव है , और

(ख) यदि हा, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री बलवराज पाटिल) : (क) और (ख) बोकारो इस्पात कारखाने मे अपरिष्कृत इस्पात की वर्तमान उत्पादन क्षमता 40 लाख मी० टन वार्षिक है। इस समय इसका और अधिक विस्तार करने का कोई प्रस्ताव नही है।

राष्ट्रीय वस्त्र निगम के अन्तर्गत चलने वाली मिलें

887. श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्तमान में राष्ट्रीय वस्त्र निगम के अन्तर्गत चलने वाली मिलो की संख्या कितनी है और उनकी अलग-अलग उत्पादन क्षमता कितनी है;